In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. Please cancel claims 2, 3 and 4 without prejudice. <u>A marked up version of the Claims showing the changes made is attached to this communication as Appendix B.</u>

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

(Once amended) A method of producing polyoxytetramethylene glycol by ring-opening-polymerizing tetrahydrofuran in the presence of acetic anhydride and an acid catalyst, wherein said ring opening-polymerization is conducted using acetic anhydride having a diketene concentration of 2 ppm or less to produce polyoxytetramethylene glycol.

5. (Once amended) A method of purifying crude acetic anhydride wherein treatment of an ozone- containing gas is conducted after distilling acetic anhydride containing diketenes.